



Australian Bureau of Statistics

CensusAtSchool Australia

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Resources



CaSQ 35B - Creating Parallel Box and Whisker Plots of Foot Length in Excel

You can download this activity as a rich text file (RTF) using the link at the bottom of the page.

The following summary statistics of foot lengths have been calculated from the CaS data in CaSQ 35A.

The statistics are used in the female and male tables below.

	min	Q1	med	Q3	max
Female	20	22	23	24	26
Male	22	23.75	26	27.25	30

Task:

1. Enter the following data including empty cells into an Excel spreadsheet.

Females	x	y		Males	x	y
min top	20	3		min top		6
min bottom	20	1		min bottom		4
Q1 top	22	3		Q1 top		6
Q1 bottom	22	1		Q1 bottom		4
med top	23	3		med top		6

med bottom	23	1		med bottom		4
Q3 top	24	3		Q3 top		6
Q3 bottom	24	1		Q3 bottom		4
max top	26	3		max top		6
max bottom	26	1		max bottom		4
box top left	22	3		box top left		6
box top right	24	3		box top right		6
box bottom left	22	1		box bottom left		4
box bottom right	24	1		box bottom right		4
lower whisker left	20	2		lower whisker left		5
lower whisker right	22	2		lower whisker right		5
upper whisker left	24	2		upper whisker left		5
upper whisker right	26	2		upper whisker right		5

2. Select the female data (numbers only) then select: Insert > scatterplot > scatter with straight lines.

3. Select: Layout > Axes > Primary Horizontal Axes > More Primary Horizontal Axis Options, and choose an appropriate scale for your plot.

4. Use the female table as a guide to enter the males summary statistics into the x column in the grid for males.

5. Leave a line then copy and paste the male data below the female data you have already entered.

6. Repeat Tasks 2 & 3 after selecting both female and male data.

7. What do we call this kind of plot? Where do you think it gets its name?

8. Explain how you would create a third plot above the male plot?

Extension: Activity CaSQ 35C is an extension to this lesson.

Download the full activity:

RTF

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